

28. A NOTE ON SOME NEW HOSTS OF *OROBANCHE*
AEGYPTIACA PERS.

Orobanche aegyptiaca Pers. of family Orobanchaceae, is an erect, pale brown, scapigerous, root parasite with many blue, sessile flowers arranged in lax spike. The different species of *Orobanche* parasitise many cultivated plants such as hemp, tobacco, tomato and many leguminous as well as cruciferous plants. Maheshwari¹ collected *O. aegyptiaca* Pers. on the roots of *Ammi majus* Linn. from Delhi.

In the present investigation *O. aegyptiaca* was recorded for the first time parasitising the roots of *Parthenium hysterophorus* Linn., *Datura metel* Linn. and *Nicotiana plumbaginifolia* Viv., which were growing along the banks of river Kshipra and its tributaries near Ujjain (23°11'N, 75°47'E). Its presence on the roots

of *Parthenium* is rather interesting in the light of present day investigations on the phytoallelopathic potential of its root exudates as it is spreading at a fast rate by eliminating other species growing in its association. It appears that root exudates of *Parthenium* do not inhibit seed germination and seedling growth of *Orobanche*, in turn these stimulate the seedling growth of it. *Nicotiana plumbaginifolia* where it was host for *Orobanche*, was in association of *Parthenium*, while *Datura metel* was growing in isolation. Host parasite relationship between these plants is of great interest and needs further experimentations.

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¹ Maheshwari, J. K. (1963): The Flora of Delhi. CSIR, New Delhi.

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29. A NOTE ON *SABIA PANICULATA* EDGEW. EX HOOK. F. &
THOMS. (SABIACEAE) FROM WEST BENGAL

The genus *Sabia* Coleb. has over 55 species in the Indian sub-continent and East Asia to Solomon Island. Of these, India has 10 species of which five occur in West Bengal being particularly confined to the northern part of the state. Of the 5 species distributed in West Bengal, this paper describes *Sabia paniculata* Edgew. ex Hook. f. & Thoms.—a species of botanical interest. This has not been recorded earlier from West Bengal by D. Prain (1903). Cowan & Cowan (1929) listed the occurrence of the taxon in the state along with the other

4 species, but without mentioning precise locality. Biswas (1966) recorded 4 species from Darjeeling district, except *S. paniculata*. A study of the herbarium specimens in CAL and pertinent literature, shows that the occurrence of the species in West Bengal needed further investigation. With this in mind, the senior author collected a number of specimens of the taxon from different localities in Jalpaiguri district during his field studies on the flora of the district. Since the collection of the taxon referred to by Cowan & Cowan